



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tsuyoshi Masuda, et al. )Examiner  
Serial No.: 10/728,712 )Nordmeyer, Patricia L.  
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For: RUNNABLE SPLICE )1772  
July 2006

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

In response to a final Office Action mailed April 26, 2006, please consider the following arguments in conjunction with an accompanying Request for Continued Examination (RCE).